

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS  
P.O. BOX 451  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

**PUBLIC NOTICE NUMBER LE5 - 2768 (I)**

TO: The Honorable Eric Clark  
Secretary of State  
Post Office Box 136  
Jackson, MS 39205  
AND  
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, at a meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on June 6, 2007, under authority of Section 25-43-3.103, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following regulations relative to **Field Trials, Taxidermy, Propagation, and Running of Dogs During Turkey Season**. This was done under authority of Sections 49-7-32, 49-7-65, 49-1-29, and 49-7-41, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Public Notice Number LE4-2768a is hereby amended and the following rules and regulations are adopted:

**Field Trials**

Be it ordered that a permit is required by any person, club, group or association, to sponsor or engage in any raccoon dog field trial, squirrel dog field trial, retriever dog field trial, bird dog field trial, rabbit dog field trial, or fox hound field trial.

Applications for such field trial shall be on a form prescribed by the Department and must contain the following information;

1. Name and address of applicant
2. Club, Group or Association
3. Type of Trial (UKC, AKC, ACHA, NFHA other)
4. Headquarters/ Meeting place
5. Counties involved
6. Wildlife Management Areas involved
7. Date or Dates of field trial

Applications must be received by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the field trial and must be accompanied by a fifty dollar (\$50.00) money order or cashiers check made out to the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks. Additionally, a fee of \$150 for one day and \$50 for each additional day is required if the facilities at Black Prairie WMA or Hell Creek WMA will be used during the field trial/event.

The secretary or other official of the club sponsoring the field trials shall maintain a list of the names and addresses of all persons, including non-residents, who have dogs participating in the field trial, for a period of thirty (30) days after the close of the trial. Such a list must be available and open for inspection by a representative of the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks at all times. All persons participating in the field trial must possess a valid hunting license unless exempt by MS Code 49-7-5 or 49-7-9. For field trials held on any Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Wildlife Management Area, all participants must carry on their person an Annual WMA User Permit in addition to any required license.

All such trials must be sanctioned or recognized by the United Kennel Club, American Kennel Club, or other chartered clubs and must be conducted in accordance with the rules of the sanctioning organization. All dogs entered must comply with Section 45-53-1 regarding rabies.

Each club sanctioned or recognized by The United Kennel Club, American Kennel Club, or other chartered club may keep one (1) live male captive fur bearing animal. This animal is to be kept by a designated member. These animals shall be housed or caged so as to comply with laws relating to humane treatment of animals.

Pen reared tame quail may be released and used as provided by Section 49-7-42.

No person attending or participating in a field trial shall take, capture or kill any wild animal.

In addition to the penalty prescribed by law, any person convicted of a violation of any of these rules and regulations shall be barred from future participation in any field trial authorized by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks for a period of twelve (12) months. However, before revocation of the privilege to participate in field trials becomes effective, the Executive Director shall notify the person by registered mail of his right to a hearing before the Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks at its next regular meeting.

#### **Running of Dogs During Spring Turkey Season**

It shall be unlawful to run, hunt, chase or pursue with dogs any raccoon, opossum, fox or other wild animals, or wild birds during the spring turkey season (March 8 - May 1), day or night, except as provided herein:

1. In areas that are closed to turkey hunting.
2. In permitted hunting enclosures (all free running dogs must remain inside the enclosure).
3. Bird dog field trials may be held in designated areas during the open spring turkey season after application, inspection, and obtaining a permit from the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.
4. Rabbit dog field trials may be permitted during the spring turkey season on lands owned or leased by organized beagle clubs provided that the club property is posted by signs every 300 feet



and the field trial has been approved by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

5. The running of raccoon dogs will be allowed on private lands from 1 hour after sunset until 3:00 a.m., provided the landowner/leaseholder completes an application and receives a property permit from the Department. A private landowner must have a minimum of 250 contiguous acres of land to receive a property permit. However, a lessee must have a minimum of 1,000 contiguous acres of leased land to obtain a property permit. Permit applications will be accepted by the Department from January 1 to February 15, annually. Applications will require contact information for the permittee, a general description of property location, and a landowner authorization form. The landowner authorization form will require the landowner's contact information, landowner's signature, county, number of acres, tax parcel numbers, and term of authorization (up to 3 years). All hunters must carry the property permit number on their person while hunting on the permitted property. All vehicles used in hunts on the permitted property must have the property permit number openly displayed, with numbers not less than two inches high, on the dash.

Hunters must obtain a \$5.00 dog permit for each dog and are limited to two dog permits per hunter. Dogs must wear a functional tracking collar and be identified at all times with the dog permit number and the owner's contact information. Dogs must be kept on the permitted property at all times.

In addition to any penalty prescribed by law, the Commission may suspend an individual's dog permit(s) and/or the property permit for a period of two years for violation of any rules and regulations pertaining to this Public Notice.

### **Taxidermy/Propagation**

A permit is required of any person who engages in any taxidermy for the general public or for wildlife propagation.

Applications for propagation or taxidermy permits must be on a form prescribed by the Department and shall contain the following:

1. Name and address of applicant (Taxidermy only)
2. Name and address of Business if different from above (Taxidermy only)
3. Reason permit requested, if not for propagation purposes
4. Name of species to be propagated

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Applications for taxidermy/ propagation permits shall be sent to the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. A permit fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) must accompany the application. Permits shall be valid for one (1) year from date of issuance and shall be displayed for inspection by Department personnel.

Any person convicted of a violation of any laws or regulations pertaining to propagation permits may, at the discretion of the Commission, have his permit recalled and revoked for a period of 12 months. However, before such revocation shall become effective, the Executive Director shall send, by registered mail, notice to such person or permittee who shall have the right to a hearing or representation before the Commission at its next regular meeting or a special meeting. Such notice shall set out fully the grounds or complaint upon which the revocation of, or refusal to grant the permit is sought.

This public notice (LE5 2768) shall repeal one year from date of passage.

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Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than July 6, 2007.

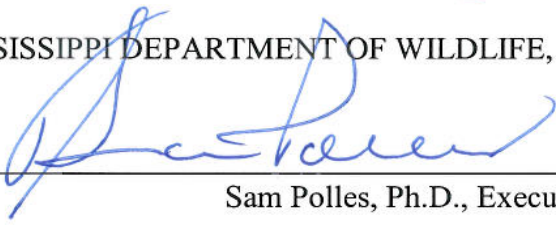
MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

  
John C Stanley, IV

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director